

Message Text

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ACTION EB-03

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TAGS: ENRG, IT

SUBJECT: ITALIAN VIEWS ON CONSUMER ENERGY COOPERATION

REF: A) STATE 53969; B) ROME 2073

1. EMBOFFS IN MARCH 28 MEETING WITH MFA ENERGY OFFICE DIRECTOR (VANNI) TOOK OCCASION TO INFORM HIM ALONG LINES PARA 5 REF A OF OUR CONTINUING PREFERENCE FOR MULTILATERAL RATHER THAN BILATERAL APPROACH TO POSSIBLE AGREEMENTS AND UNDERSTANDINGS WITH MAJOR CONSUMING AND PRODUCING GOVTS IN EASTERN HEMISPHERE REGARDING INTERNATIONAL OIL TRADE.

2. THIS LED TO SEVERAL COMMENTS BY VANNI GENERALLY ALONG LINES REF B ON CONSUMER AS WELL AS CONSUMER/ PRODUCER COOPERATION. SHOW-
ING SENSITIVITY TO OPEC CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBLE CONSUMER CARTEL, VANNI THOUGHT THAT CONCEPT OF CONSUMER " FRONT" VIS- A- VIS PRODUCERS SHOULD IN NO CASE BE THE ONLY ELEMENT OF POSSIBLE COOPERATION POLICY, BUT RATHER AT MOST ONE ASPECT ALONG WITH COOPERATION IN RESEARCH AND EXPLORATION FOR EXAMPLE. VANNI FULLY SUPPORTED OECD AS FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPMENT OF CONSUMER COOPERATION, BUT FELT THAT STRUCTURE THIS FORUM COULD AND SHOULD BE STRENGTHENED AND IMPROVED.

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3. VANNI THEN TURNED TO ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL OIL COMPANIES IN DISCUSSIONS WITH PRODUCING COUNTRIES. HE FELT THAT COMPANIES COULD NO LONGER BE LEFT ALONE TO NEGOTIATE WITH PRODUCERS, BUT THAT CONSUMER GOVTS M ARREST AND CROWN WILL BE PROCEEDING WITH THREE CHARGES AGAINST HIM." JUDGE ASKED BRADY IF HE WERE REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL. SUBJECT REPLIED HE HAD TOO LITTLE TIME TO DRESS MUCH LESS ENGAGE COUNSEL. JUDGE TOLD BRADY THAT PROCEEDINGS DID NOT CONSTITUTE A TRIAL AND HE WOULD HAVE TIME TO PREPARE FOR TRIAL SCHEDULED FOR DOWNPATRICK SPRING ASSIZES IN MAY.

4. BRADY ASKED CONOFF IF CONSULATE GENERAL WOULD ASSIST HIM IN OBTAINING LEGAL ASSISTANCE CONOFF ASKED BRADY IF THIS MEANT HE WOULD FIGHT CHARGES IN COURT SUBJECT STATED THAT TO " FIGHT CHARGES IN COURT WOULD BE INCONSISTENT AND WOULD PLAY INTO BRITISH HANDS WOULD NOT SERVE SELF INTERESTS BUT WOULD GIVE LEGALITY TO TRAPPINGS OF TRIAL BASED UPON A FALLACY" SUBJECT SAID HE WANTS A LAWYER ONLY TO COACH HIM IN ADVANCE OF TRIAL AND ADVISE HIM AS A " FRIEND OF THE COURT" . DURING TRIAL PROCEEDINGS BRADY PLANS TO CONDUCT HIS OWN CASE IN MANNER THAT " WILL NOT REINFORCE CONVICTION OF FIRST TRIAL". CONOFF STATED THAT A TRAINED LAWYER WOULD CONSIDERABLY INCREASE HIS CHANCES OF BEATING CHARGES BRADY GAVE SUGGESTION SEVERAL MINUTES OF SILENT THOUGHT CONOFF INFORMED BRADY A LIST OF ATTORNEYS WOULD BE SENT TO HIM IMMEDIATELY.

5. BRADY ASKED WHETHER CONSULATE GENERAL CAN MAKE A STATEMENT IN COURT TO EFFECT THAT HE HAS LEAD AN EXEMPLARY LIFE IN UNITED STATES. CONOFF SAID CONSULATE GENERAL CANNOT TAKE PART IN TRIALS. SUBJECT THEN REQUESTED STATEMENT IN WRITING IN FORM OF LETTER. CONOFF SAID CONSULATE GENERAL DID NOT KNOW OF BRADY' S PAST HISTORY AND SUGGESTED THAT HIS AMERICAN LAWYER WOULD BE IN BETTER POSITION TO OBTAIN SUCH STATEMENTS FROM SUBJECTS HOMETOWN COMMUNITY LEADERS.

6. BRADY ASKED IF CONOFF WOULD ATTEND TRIAL AND WAS TOLD SOMEONE FROM CONSULATE GENERAL WOULD BE AT PROCEEDINGS.

7. IT IS CONOFFS RECOLLECTION THAT AT OCTOBER 10 TRIAL PROSECUTOR INFORMED COURT THAT OTHER CHARGES WERE BEING PUT TO DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS AND WOULD BE PUT OFF TO LATER ASSIZES. PRESENT CHARGES MAY BE IDENTICAL WITH THOSE MENTIONED AT TRIAL. CONSULATE GENERAL HAS HEARD THAT OWNER OF SHOP ROBBED AND SET ON FIRE LAST JUNE HAD BEEN HIT ON HEAD DURING CRIME. THESE NEW
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CHARGES MAY RELATE TO THAT ASPECT OF EPISODE.
PENBERTHY

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